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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Intelligence Information Cable

COUNTRY VENEZUELA CUBA

TDCS -3/574,865

DATE OF INFO. MID TO LATE FEBRUARY 1964

DISTR. 6 MARCH 1964

SUBJECT

ACTIVITIES OF MANUEL RAY REVERO, HEAD OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTIONARY JUNTA IN VENEZUELA

PLACE & DATE ACQ. VENEZUELA, CARACAS (3 MARCH 1964)

REF IN 34189

SOURCE AND APPRAISAL:

FIELD REPORT NO. HVC 2885

A FOREIGN JOURNALIST IN VENEZUELA WHO HAS EXTENSIVE CONTACTS IN THE CUBAN EXILE COMMUNITY AND WHO HAS BEEN A RELIABLE REPORTER ON EXILE ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST. IT IS KNOWN, HOWEVER, THAT SOURCE AND RAY HAVE WIDELY DIVERGENT POLITICAL VIEWS. SOURCE RECEIVED THE INFORMATION AS FOLLOWS: PARAGRAPH 1 FROM EMILIO FERNANDEZ, A CUBAN INSURANCE EXECUTIVE IN CARACAS, FROM QUINTANA. PARAGRAPH 2 FROM EMILIO FERNANDEZ FROM RENE CASTELLANOS, A CUBAN INSURANCE SALESMAN AND MEMBER OF THE CLUB PATRIOTICO, JOSE MARTI, FROM MARTINEZ. PARAGRAPH 3 FROM MIGUEL ZALDIVAR, LAWYER AND MRR (REVOLUTIONARY RECUPERATION MOVEMENT) COORDINATOR IN VENEZUELA, FROM HIS WIFE, FROM THE WIFE OF JOSE VAZQUEZ BLANCO.

1. JORGE QUINTANA, A JOURNALIST FOR THE BOHEMIA LIBRE MAGAZINE AND SYMPATHIZER OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTIONARY JUNTA (JURE) IN VENEZUELA, SAID ON 25 FEBRUARY 1964 THAT WHEN MANUEL RAY REVERO, LEADER OF JURE, ARRIVED IN VENEZUELA ON 18 FEBRUARY HE BROUGHT WITH HIM 25,000 U.S. DOLLARS TO INVEST IN A LOW-COST HOUSING PROJECT. QUINTANA SAID THAT RAY'S ASSOCIATE IN THIS PROJECT IS HANS NEUMAN, CO-OWNER OF PINTURAS MONTANA, C.A. IN VENEZUELA, AND THAT RAY WILL RECEIVE A MONTHLY INCOME OF BETWEEN 400.00 AND 500.00 U.S. DOLLARS FOR HIS INVESTMENT. QUINTANA THEN QUOTED RAY AS SAYING THAT HE (RAY) WOULD BE GOING TO CUBA IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND, CONVINCED HE WOULD DIE THERE, HAD TO INSURE

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A SECURE FUTURE FOR HIS WIFE AND FAMILY. (FIELD COMMENT: IN 1948 ONE HANS NEUMAN WAS REPORTED AS A CZECH COMMUNIST (PORTION GARBLED - BEING SERVICED) MEXICO. UNCONFIRMED ALLEGATIONS WHICH A [REDACTED] RECEIVED FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED SOURCE CHARGED THE DIRECTORS OF PINTURAS MONTANA AS BEING COMMUNISTS WHO ARE USING THE PROFITS FROM THEIR FIRM TO FINANCE COMMUNIST ESPIONAGE AND PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES IN VENEZUELA.)

2. LUIS MIGUEL MARTINEZ, A MEMBER OF JURE IN CARACAS, SAID ON 25 FEBRUARY THAT THE 25,000.00 U.S. DOLLARS RAY BROUGHT WITH HIM TO VENEZUELA WAS ORIGINALLY COLLECTED FOR JURE'S OPERATIONS AGAINST CUBA. MARTINEZ SAID THAT THE INCOME RAY WOULD RECEIVE FROM THE HOUSING PROJECT WOULD BE BASED ON THE SQUARE FOOTAGE OF EACH HOUSE CONSTRUCTED AND THAT RAY'S PURPOSE IN MAKING THIS INVESTMENT WAS TO SAFEGUARD HIS FAMILY'S FUTURE. (SOURCE COMMENT: THE VENEZUELAN CUBAN EXILE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN DEEPLY SHOCKED BY REPORTS THAT RAY USED MONEY GIVEN HIM BY FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES FOR ANTI-CASTRO OPERATIONS FOR HIS OWN PERSONAL BENEFIT.)

3. IN LATE FEBRUARY, THE WIFE OF JOSE VAZQUEZ BLANCO, FORMER CUBAN CONSUL IN CARACAS, QUOTED HER HUSBAND AS SAYING THAT HE WAS PROFOUNDLY DISILLUSIONED BY THE FACT THAT RAY DEPOSITED 25,000 U.S. DOLLARS IN A CARACAS BANK IN CONNECTION WITH A HOUSING PLAN. (SOURCE COMMENT: BEFORE RAY LEFT VENEZUELA ON 22 FEBRUARY, HE WAS INTERVIEWED BY DR. MARIO MAURIELLO, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE BANCO OBRERO DE VENEZUELA, IN CONNECTION WITH THE LOW-COST HOUSING PROJECT FOR WHICH RAY HAD

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BROUGHT PLANS AND BLUEPRINTS. IT IS CURRENTLY BEING SAID AMONG THE CUBAN EXILE COMMUNITY IN CARACAS THAT RAY'S PLAN WAS WELL RECEIVED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF ACCION DEMOCRATICA-GOBIERNO (AD-GOV, DEMOCRATIC ACTION-GOVERNMENT) SINCE IT MIGHT PROVIDE AD-GOV WITH A COUNTERPROPOSAL TO THE COPEI (SOCIAL CHRISTIAN) PARTY'S PROGRAM TO CONSTRUCT "100,000 HOUSES A YEAR".)

4. FIELD DISSEM: STATE ARMY NAVY AIR CINCSO CINCLANT.

5. *(HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: MISSING PORTION WILL BE DISSEMINATED ONLY IF IT MATERIALLY AFFECTS THE SENSE OF THIS REPORT.)

END OF MESSAGE

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